1	2	3	4
Operating Expenses	1754.30	1799.40	1908.10
Other Expenses	129.70	175.30	150.10
Interest & Finance Charges (Net)	86.50	100.40	72.40
Depreciation	249.80	258.90	274.80
Tax Liability	55.00	47.00	41.00
Total Expenses :	2275.30	2381.00	2446.40
Profit after tax	246.20	201.30	161.60

(c) No, Sir. SCI owns two vessels namely m.v. Harshavardhana and m.v. Ramanujam which are operated on behalf of Andaman & Nicobar Administration on a reimbursement basis. Other 14 passenger vessels are owned by Union Territory of Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Administration and manned and managed by SCI on payment of remuneration as per the agreement for Operation and Maintenance of the vessels.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Privatisation and Deregulation of Port Sector

2467. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are seriously thinking to privatise and deregulate the Port sector on the lines of the U.K., Canada and Australia;

(b) whether Corporation of Ports have been beneficial to the country's economy, internationally; and

(c) whether it would be beneficial to the Indian economy if Ports are corporatised in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. However, the Government have decided, in principle, to corporatise the Major Ports and have laid down guidelines for privatisation of specific Port facilities in the Major Ports.

(b) and (c) Coporatisation of Ports generally helps achieving

efficiency due to flexibility of operations available to the management. The benefits on account of corporatisation of Major Ports would, to a great extent, depend on response of the private sector.

Amount allocated to NMFDC

2468. SHRI MOHD. AZAM KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount given to the National Minority Finance and Development Corporation during the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000, year-wise;

(b) the amount spent by the Corporation during the said period; and

(c) the details of the item on which the amount was spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) (a) Rs. 32 crores and Rs. 20 crores were sanctioned by the Central Government as share capital to the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 respectively.

(b) and (c) Amounts provided to the state Channelizing Agencies and Non-Government Organizations by the Corporation during the said period, item-wise, are given below:

	Item	Amount spent (Rs. lakh)	
		1998-99	1999-2000
(i)	Programme of lending through State Channelizing Agencies	5938.99	6077.85
(ii)	Micro financing scheme	38.17	39.23
(iii)	Programme for stabilization and promotion of Self Help Groups	4.90	13.17